

# Victims Services Quarterly Conversation #17

October 12, 2022



# DCJS

Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services

# VS Quarterly Conversations

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- Held beginning of each quarter
- Mix of specific topics & discussion
- DCJS & VS announcements
- Q&A

October is

**Domestic Violence  
Awareness Month**



# New Division Director for the DCJS Division of Programs & Services

## **Tracey Jenkins**

Farewell to

**Erin Osiol**

&

**Chrissy Wengloski**

# VS Grant Monitors & Regional Assignments

- **Amia Barrows**, Grant Monitoring Supervisor, Statewide & *Capitol/Northern Neck (temporarily)*
- **Dione Bassett**, Hampton Roads
- **Kelly Carpenter**, Shenandoah
- **Bunny Chidester**, Western
- **Haymanot Cummings**, Northern
- **Sharon Reed**, Southwest
- **Chrissy Smith**, Southside & *Central I-95 Corridor (temporarily)*

# Victims Crisis Assistance & Response Team Program

- **Julia Fuller-Wilson**, *State Crisis Response Coordinator / Supervisor*
- **Dawn Bush**, *VCART Training and Outreach Specialist*
- **Andrew Kinch**, *VCART Program Specialist*

# Victims Services Administrators/Coordinators

- **Tricia Everetts**, *Training Coordinator*
- **Chad Felts**, *Intimate Partner Gun Violence Prevention Coordinator*
- **Patricia Foster**, *Victim/Witness Program Coordinator*
- **Gleibys Gonzalez**, *Sexual Assault Forensic Services Coordinator*
- **Jennifer Kline**, *Improving Criminal Justice Responses (ICJR) Grant Program Coordinator*
- **Andi Martin**, *Sexual Assault & Intimate Partner Violence Program Coordinator*
- **Anya Shaffer**, *Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Administrator*
- **Amber Stanwix**, *SDV Program Professional Standards Coordinator*
- **Andrea Sumter**, *SDV Program Professional Standards Site Visit Consultant*
- **Tierra Williams**, *VSTOP & Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Victim Fund (VSDVVF) Program Coordinator*

# General Information & Reminders on Contract Amendments

Amia Barrows

# Contract Amendments

- Program Updates
  - Changes in grant funded staff and authorized officials
- Budget Modifications
  - In-line budget adjustments
  - Budget amendments
- Review Period / Timeframes
- We encourage you to talk with your Grant Monitor!

# General Information & Reminders on Grant Claims

Will Abbott, DCJS Grants Management

# Claims: Reminders

- DCJS Grants Management Team makes every effort to have claims reviewed and approved within 30 days of submission (or resubmission if it is negotiated back). After that, it can take up to 10 days for the grantee to receive payment.
- Quarterly claims are due on the 15th day of the month following the end of a quarter (October, January, April, July). If these dates fall on the weekend or a holiday, the claim is due on the next business day.

# Claims: Reminders

- Do not add attachments to the Details of Expenditures section of your claim unless asked to do so by DCJS.
- Make sure your SAM registration is not expired, otherwise a claim will not be approved.
- Claims cannot be approved if you have not submitted the SOGA or if you have other pending items to include encumbrances or a pending Status Report.

# Claims: Common Mistakes

- Reimbursement request does not match what is listed in details of expenditures.
- Items are listed in the wrong category (ex. federal funds are listed as state funds).
- The claim includes items that are not in the approved budget.

# Questions?



# Information on American Rescue Plan Act Funds

Kristina Vadas

# American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds

- Source of ARPA funding is U.S. Department of the Treasury (federal), awarded to Virginia and appropriated through the state budget.
- In both SFY 2022 & 2023, ARPA funding was appropriated to DCJS to “support services to victims of crime...”
- However, the budget language also restricted the use of these funds.

# ARPA Funds: SFY 2022

Specific language in SFY 2022:

*The Department shall use these funds to support sexual assault and domestic violence applicants of the Victims Services Grant Program for Fiscal Year 2022 such that the amounts reduced from the competitive grant applications for this grant period, due to lack of funding, are fully restored.*

# ARPA Funds: SFY 2023

Specific language in SFY 2023:

*The department shall use these funds to support sexual assault and domestic violence applicants of the Victims Services Grant Program...*

*...(ARPA) funds over the biennium to go to sexual assault and domestic violence agencies for services for victims of sexual assault and domestic violence...*

# Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Funding Outlook

Anya Shaffer & Kristina Vadas



- Memos were emailed on Thursday, 10/6, to Victims Services Grant Program (VSGP) and Victim/Witness Grant Program (VWGP) recipients regarding State Fiscal Year 2024 funding levels.
  - Emailed from [Anya.Shaffer@dcjs.virginia.gov](mailto:Anya.Shaffer@dcjs.virginia.gov); please email her or your Grant Monitor if you did not receive it.
- Memos indicate that it is anticipated that VSGP and VWGP will receive a one-year renewal for SFY24 (7/1/23 – 6/30/24) that includes a 10% decrease in the federal VOCA portion of the awards.
- State funding is not impacted by this.



- Beyond SFY 2024 is very uncertain.
- Two primary concerns:
  1. Balance of the federal Crime Victims Fund
  2. DCJS VOCA award amounts v. grant obligations

# Federal VOCA Funding

- The federal Crime Victims Fund (CVF) was established by the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) in 1984.
- Money from the CVF is awarded to states and territories by the U.S. Department of Justice, Office for Victims of Crime (OVC), to support programs and services for victims of crime.
- Federal revenues deposited into the CVF come from criminal fines, forfeited bail bonds, penalties, and other non-tax revenues.

# Federal VOCA Funding

- The amount of VOCA funds allocated from the CVF is determined by Congress in the Appropriations Act and is referred to as the “VOCA Cap.”
- Beginning in 2015, there have been significant fluctuations in the VOCA Cap and thus in the amount of VOCA dollars allocated to states.

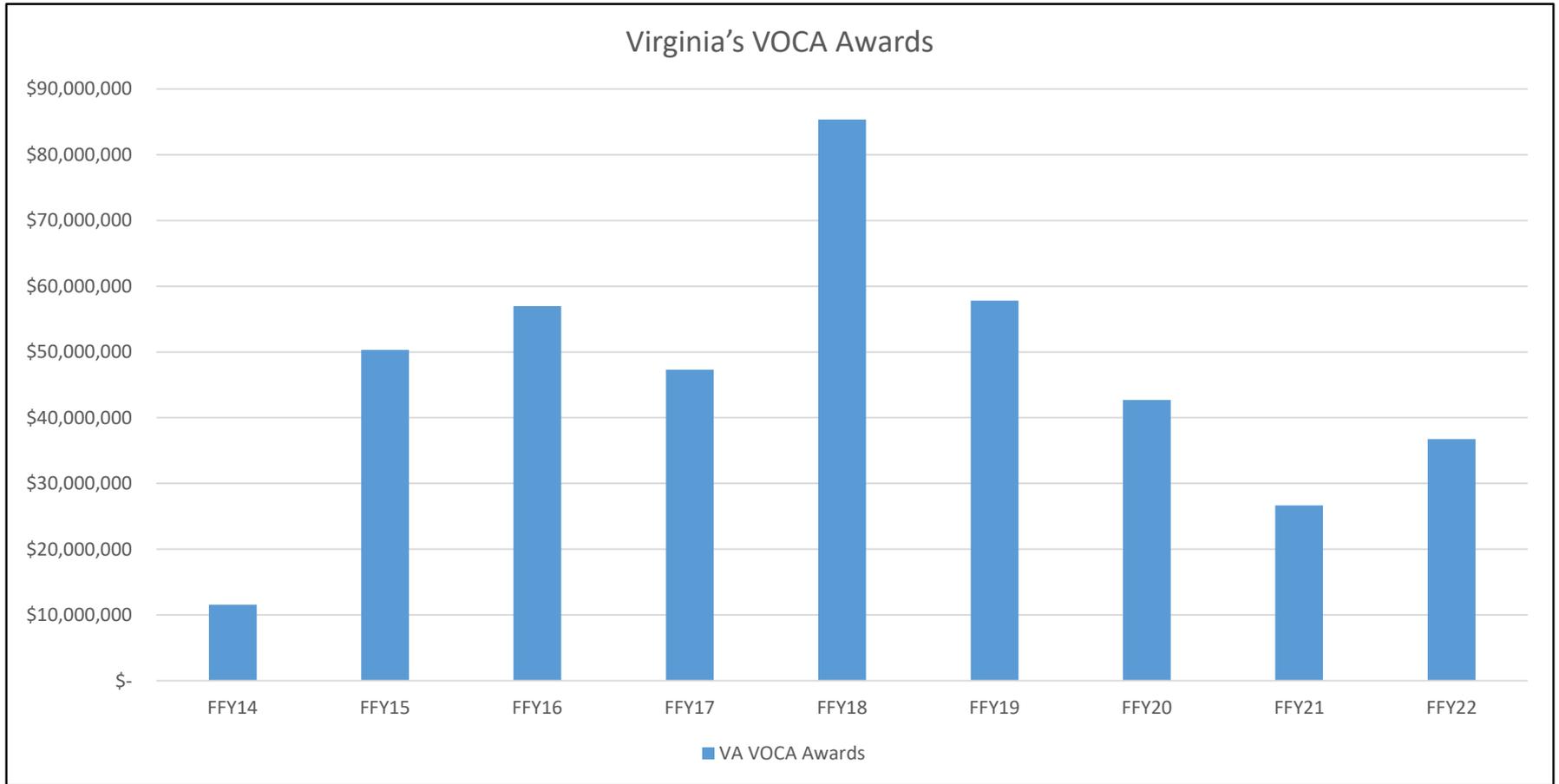
# Federal VOCA Funding: “VOCA Fix Act”

- Increases in VOCA awards coincided with a decrease in deposits into the CVF. This led the balance of the CVF to decline sharply.
- In 2021, the VOCA Fix to Sustain the Crime Victims Fund Act of 2021 (“VOCA Fix Act”) was passed.
- The VOCA Fix Act is intended to address long-term sustainability of the CVF, and is not a short-term influx of funds.

# Federal VOCA Funding in Virginia

- Virginia's federal fiscal year (FFY) 2015 VOCA allocation totaled \$50.3 million. This was more than four times as much as Virginia received in 2014, when the award totaled \$11.5 million.
- The increase in awards peaked in FFY18 with an award totaling over \$85 million.
- Since FFY18, awards have declined, with Virginia's FFY22 award totaling \$36.7 million.

# Federal VOCA Funding in Virginia



# Federal VOCA Funding in Virginia

FFY14: \$11,561,072

FFY15: \$50,330,687

FFY16: \$56,993,066

FFY17: \$47,315,341

FFY18: \$85,366,389

FFY19: \$57,815,818

FFY20: \$42,711,960

FFY21: \$26,655,243

FFY22: \$36,757,166

# Federal VOCA Funding in Virginia

- States have three years, in addition to the award year, to expend VOCA funds. This has enabled DCJS to slowly increase subaward amounts and stretch the recent large VOCA awards across several SFY.
- Using this funding strategy, many grantees saw grant award increases, and new organizations received funding for the first time as well.
- This strategy also enabled DCJS to mitigate the impact of federal VOCA decreases and fluctuations on grantees.

# Federal VOCA Funding in Virginia

- For SFY 2023, VOCA funds are used to support a total of **261 subawards through 6 grant programs.**
- The SFY 2023 12-month VOCA obligation totals **\$46,935,415.**

# VOCA Funding: The Bottom Line



With recent VOCA awards totaling \$26.7 million (FFY21) and \$36.8 million (FFY22), DCJS cannot continue to support annual VOCA obligations at current levels (\$46.9 million).

This necessitates the anticipated 10% reductions.

# Questions?



# Victims Services Grant Program Announcements

# DCJS Victims Services Grant Programs

*as of July 1, 2022*

1. Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP)
2. Victim/Witness Grant Program (VWGP)
3. Victims Services Grant Program (VSGP)
4. VSTOP
5. Virginia Sexual & Domestic Violence Victim Fund (VSDVVF)
6. Improving Criminal Justice Responses (ICJR)
7. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Restoration \*

# ICJR

- DCJS was recently awarded an Improving Criminal Justice Responses (ICJR) grant from the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW)!
- This grant supports a statewide partnership among DCJS, Office of the Attorney General, Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, Virginia Poverty Law Center, and Virginia Victim Assistance Network.
- Grant is for three years of work related to training and resources for criminal justice and allied professionals on sexual and domestic violence.

# SASP

- Current Calendar Year 2022 grants are in the 4th quarter of the 12-month grant. These grants end on 12/31/22.
- SASP annual report is due by January 15, 2023. Annual report form and instructions at [SASP Reporting](#).
- **CY 2022 budget amendment deadline is 11/17/22.**
- CY 2023 applications have been reviewed and will be presented to the Criminal Justice Services Board in early December.

# VSGP

- Current grants are in the second quarter of the second year of their two-year award.
- Status Reports for 7/1/22 – 9/30/22 are due in OGMS and the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) [PMT](#) system by 10/15/22. Claims for the same period are also due.

# ARPA VSGP Restoration Funding

- Source of ARPA funding is U.S. Department of the Treasury (federal), awarded to Virginia and appropriated through the state budget.
- Recipients can request the entire award amount in advance. Contact your Grant Monitor for assistance.
- Once all funds are spent, mark the last claim as “Final.” No additional claims are required for remainder of award period.
- Annual status report is required if any funds are spent between 7/1/22 – 6/30/23. Due 7/15/23.

# ARPA VSGP Restoration Funding

- SFY 2022 awards were extended to June 30, 2023.
- New Statements of Grant Award (SOGA) for extensions were sent in early August. These must be signed and returned to DCJS.
- If your agency spent your full ARPA award prior to June 30, 2022, you marked your last claim as “final,” and you did not get additional ARPA funds, you do not need to return the signed SOGA.

# ARPA VSGP Restoration Funding

- Sexual and domestic violence agencies received additional funds for SFY 2023.
- To access the funds, recipients must submit a Contract Amendment in OGMS called Modified Award in order to add these funds into their current ARPA budget.
- Instructions for this process were emailed to impacted programs in early August with the updated SOGA.
- DCJS created a short video of how to complete a Modified Award Contract Amendment. A link to the video and the instructions are on the [DCJS ARPA webpage](#).

# VSTOP

- CY 2023 Continuation Award information will be available within the upcoming months.
- **CY 2022 budget amendment deadline is November 17, 2022.**

# VSDVWF

- Status Reports are due via OGMS on 10/15/2022 (or next business day). Please use the correct reporting form based on Discretionary or Prosecution.
- Do not report in PMT.

# VSDVWF: New Purpose Area

- New Funding Opportunity for Forensic Nursing!
- Funding Opportunity closed on 9/20/22.
- Competitive grant application review is underway.
- Awards determined at December 2022 meeting of the Criminal Justice Services Board.

# OGMS Reminders

## (On-line Grant Management System)

- All users must be registered in the system & associated with the correct organization and grant
- Check your “spam” folder for OGMS notifications
- OGMS information is available at:  
<https://www.dcjs.virginia.gov/grants/ogms-training-resources>
- For technical support contact:  
[ogmssupport@dcjs.virginia.gov](mailto:ogmssupport@dcjs.virginia.gov)

# DCJS & Victims Services Team Announcements

# VCART Program

- Basic Victims Crisis Assistance and Response Team (VCART) training will be held on November 30-December 2 in Northern Virginia.
  - 3-day intensive training using the National Organization for Victim Assistance (NOVA) crisis response curriculum.
  - If you are interested in becoming a VCART member, please visit [here](#) to complete an application. Open through 10/25/22.
  - Limited lodging scholarships are available.

# Sexual Assault Forensic Services Program

The Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner Program  
Directory is now available!

You can find it on the DCJS website [here](#),  
or contact Gleibys Gonzalez at  
[gleibys.gonzalez@dcjs.virginia.gov](mailto:gleibys.gonzalez@dcjs.virginia.gov) for more  
information.

# Lethality Assessment Program

The Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence (MNADV), parent organization for LAP administration in Virginia, reported last week that their pending curriculum update (included new training materials, online resources, etc.) was approved on 9/23 and will be rolled out in the coming weeks/months to participating state teams.

Once trained, the Virginia statewide LAP team hopes to implement the new curriculum in all future trainings, likely beginning in January 2023.

# Victims Services Trainings

- List of all DCJS trainings:  
<https://www.dcjs.virginia.gov/training-events>
- Contact Tricia Everetts, [tricia.everetts@dcjs.virginia.gov](mailto:tricia.everetts@dcjs.virginia.gov)

# Questions?

